ESF Coordinator:

Department of Agriculture

Primary Agencies, for:

Provision of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program by the Food and Nutrition Service

Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)

Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response

Department of Agriculture (WSDA) Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Department of Health (DOH)

Assurance of the Safety and Security of the Commercial Food Supply

Department of Agriculture Department of Health

Protection of Natural, Cultural, and Historic (NCH) Resources

Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP)

Department of Ecology (ECY)

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Support Agencies:

Department of Agriculture Department of Commerce (DOC) Department of Ecology Department of Enterprise Services (DES)

Department of Health (DOH)

Department of Labor and Industries (L&I)

Department of Social and Health Services

Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Office of the Attorney General (AG) Washington Military Department (WMD) U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) American Red Cross (ARC)

The Salvation Armv

Voluntary Agencies Active in Disasters

INTRODUCTION

Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) 11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources supports state, local, and tribal authorities in addressing: (1) provision of nutrition assistance; (2) control and eradication of an outbreak of a highly contagious and/or economically devastating animal/ zoonotic disease, highly infectious exotic plant disease, or economically devastating plant pest infestation; (3) assurance of food safety and food security (under WSDA jurisdictions and authorities) and (4) protection of natural and cultural resources and historic properties (NCH) prior to, during and after emergencies or disasters.

Scope

ESF-11 includes four primary functions:

- Coordinating the provisions of the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (USDA-FNS):
 Includes determining nutrition assistance needs, obtaining appropriate food supplies, arranging for delivery of the supplies and, under a presidential declaration, authorizing the disaster supplemental nutrition assistance program.
- Animal and plant disease and pest response: Includes implementing an integrated federal, state, local and tribal response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, an outbreak of a highly infectious exotic plant disease or an economically devastating plant pest infestation. Ensures, in coordination with ESF 8 Public Health and Medical Services, animal/veterinary/wildlife/carcass disposal issues in natural disasters are supported.
- Assurance of the safety and security of the commercial food supply: Includes the
 inspection and verification of food safety aspects of slaughter and processing plants,
 products in distribution and retail sites and import facilities at ports of entry; laboratory
 analysis of food samples; control of suspected, adulterated products; plant closures;
 food-borne disease surveillance and field investigations.
- **Protection of NCH resources:** Includes appropriate response actions to conserve, rehabilitate, recover and restore NCH resources.

Policies

General

- Actions carried out under ESF 11 are coordinated with and conducted cooperatively with federal, state, local and tribal incident management officials and with private entities, in coordination with the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).
- Each supporting agency is responsible for managing its respective assets and resources after receiving direction from a primary agency through the SEOC. Agency assets on-scene will be coordinated and employed by the Incident Command for the incident or event.

Nutrition Assistance Policies

- Food supplies secured and delivered under ESF 11 are suitable either for household distribution or for congregate meal service, as appropriate.
- Transportation and distribution of food supplies within the affected area are arranged by federal, state, local and voluntary organizations.
- ESF 11 officials coordinate with and support, as appropriate, agencies responsible for mass feeding in accordance with ESF 6 – Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing and Human Services.
- ESF 11 officials encourage the use of congregate feeding arrangements as the primary outlet for disaster food supplies.
- Priority is given to moving critical supplies of food into areas of acute need and then to areas of moderate need.
- ESF 11 officials, upon notification commercial channels of trade have been restored, may authorize the use of disaster food stamp program procedures.

Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response Policies

- When addressing animal diseases, all animal depopulation activities are conducted as humanely as possible while stopping pathogen spread and limiting the number of animals that must be euthanized. Disposal methods for infected or potentially infected carcasses and plant host material are chosen for their effectiveness in stopping pathogen spread and for their minimal impact on the environment.
- The Director of the Department of Agriculture may request the Governor proclaim a state of emergency for affected counties. The Director of the Department of Agriculture will request the Secretary of the U.S.
 Department of Agriculture declare an Extraordinary Emergency to pay compensation and to allow for the use of federal authorities for actions taken within a state.

Food Safety and Security Policies

- The Food Safety and Consumer Services Division, Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health (DOH) will be notified of a possible food borne illness or food contamination immediately by the local public health agency, the SEOC Alert and Warning Center or any other means.
- The Food Safety Program Manager will coordinate directly with the Department of Health. The two primary agencies will notify the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and the SEOC.
- The FSIS is activated upon notification of the occurrence of a potential or actual Incident of National Significance by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) when a federal response is warranted.
- Actions undertaken are guided by existing WSDA and DOH internal policies and procedures and coordinated by state and local food safety officials, emergency preparedness and response officials.

NCH Resources Protection Policies

- The Department of the Natural Resources (DNR) is the initial primary agency for NCH resources. The primary agency for each emergency is determined jointly by DNR and the SEOC and may change over the life of the incident.
- Actions carried out under ESF 11 to protect, conserve, rehabilitate, recover and restore NCH resources are guided by the existing internal policies and procedures of the primary agency for each incident.
- The primary agency for each incident coordinates with agencies from the appropriate ESFs and annexes to ensure appropriate measures are in place to protect all workers.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

General

WSDA, as the coordinating agency for ESF 11, coordinates with the ESF primary agency(s) for each of the four primary functional areas addressed above. WSDA coordinates the capabilities and resources of the state through the SEOC to facilitate the delivery of services,

technical assistance, expertise and other support for emergencies and disasters affecting the state.

ESF 11 provides for an integrated state, local and tribal response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, i.e., transmitted between animals and people, an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease or an economically devastating plant or animal pest infestation in Washington State.

WSDA, through ESF 11, ensures the safety and security of the food supply under their jurisdiction, e.g., meat, poultry, and egg products, (Title 69 Revised Code of Washington) in Washington State following an emergency or disaster and mitigates the effects of the incident(s) on the people, economy and environment of Washington State.

As the primary agency for NCH resources, DNR organizes and coordinates the capabilities and resources of the state through the SEOC and ESF 11 to facilitate the delivery of services, technical assistance, expertise and other support for the protection, conservation, rehabilitation, recovery and restoration of NCH resources prior to or following a man-made or natural disaster.

ESF 11 identifies, secures and arranges for the transportation of food and/or food stamp benefits to affected areas.

Functional Category Responsibilities

Functional Category	Responsibilities
Nutrition	Determine nutritional assistance needs.
Assistance	Obtain appropriate food supplies.
	Arrange for transportation of food supplies.
	Request Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program authorization under a presidential declaration.
Animal and Plant Disease	Implement an integrated state-level response to an outbreak of an economically devastating or highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease, exotic plant disease or plant pest infestation.
and Pest Response	Coordinate veterinary and wildlife services in affected areas.
	The decontamination and/or destruction of animals and plants as well as associated facilities, e.g., barns, processing equipment, soil, and feeding and growing areas, may be required during a bio-hazardous event.
	Coordinate with ESF 8 on animal/veterinary/wildlife/disposal issues during disease and natural disaster events.

Food Inspection and verification of meat, poultry and egg products in affected Safety and areas. Security Food-borne disease surveillance. Supply Coordinate recall and tracing of adulterated products. Coordinate disposal of contaminated food products. Provide inspectors and laboratory services to affected areas. NCH Coordinate NCH resources identification and vulnerability assessments. Resource Facilitate development and application of protective measures and **Protection** strategies. Assist in compliance with relevant federal and state environmental laws during emergency response activities, such as emergency permits/ consultation for natural resources use or consumption. Manage, monitor and assist in or conduct response and recovery actions to minimize damage to NCH resources. Coordinate with ESFs 3 and 10 on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources. • Coordinate with ESF 3 to manage, monitor or provide technical assistance on emergency stabilization of shorelines, riparian buffer zones and hillsides to protect NCH resources.

ORGANIZATION

Washington State Response Structure

The state response structure operates under the direction of the lead primary agency, which is determined on the basis of the assistance needed for the specific incident. When the assistance needed involves NCH resources protection, the DNR provides the initial response direction and coordination. When an incident requires assistance from more than one of the ESF 11 Lead in the SEOC provides the overall direction.

Provide Incident Management Teams to assist in NCH resource

• **For nutrition assistance**, the DSHS SEOC Coordinator is the point of contact and coordinates state response activities with other agencies, see Appendix 1.

response and recovery actions.

- For animal and plant disease and pest response, the State Veterinarian or WSDA Assistant Director for Plant Services, respectively, assume primary responsibility, see Appendix 2 (Animal) and Appendix 3 (Plant).
- For an incident involving food safety and security, WSDA and DOH jointly assume primary responsibility, see Appendix 4.
- For an incident involving NCH resources protection, DNR assumes initial primary responsibility. The primary responsibility can be transferred to the applicable agency as the response progresses, see Appendix 5.

The Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (MACG) or Disaster Manager (DM) directs the state response when the SEOC is activated to Phase II or higher. ESF 11 is activated at Phase II or higher, depending on the specific requirements of the incident. The MACG or DM convenes a conference call with appropriate support agencies, federal agencies and non-federal partners to assess the situation and determine appropriate actions. The SEOC then alerts supporting organizations and requests they provide representation. In the event of an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease:

- The State Coordinating Officer, who may be the State Veterinarian or other official from
 either the animal health or the emergency management community, serves as the state's
 principal point of contact with the federal government, represented by the USDA Area
 Veterinarian-in-Charge.
- The state, regional, tribal and/or local emergency operations centers (EOCs) activate, as needed, to coordinate, collaborate and interface with local and tribal governments, state agencies, federal government and the private sector in responding to the incident.
- The State Veterinarian and Area Veterinarian-in-Charge establish a Unified Command, which serves as the focal point for coordinating the disease management decision making process.
- The State Animal Response Plan, Appendix 2, will be used to response to all hazards, animal health events.

In the event of an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease or an economically devastating plant pest infestation:

- The WSDA Assistant Director for Plant Services acts as the state's principal point of contact with the federal government.
- The state, regional, tribal and/or local EOCs activate, as needed, to coordinate, collaborate and interface with local and tribal governments, state agencies and the private sector in responding to the incident.
- The WSDA Assistant Director for Plant Services establishes a Unified Command, which serves as the focal point for coordinating the disease or pest management decision making process.
- The State Plant Response Plan, Appendix 3, will be used to response to plant and pest infestations of all types.

The State Food Safety Response Plan, Appendix 4, will be used to response to food safety and security incidents of all types.

The State NCH Response Plan, Appendix 5, will be used to response to NCH incidents of all types.

Regardless of the nature of the disease or pest emergency, the state establishes a Joint Information Center (JIC) that functions as the principal source of information about the disease outbreak or pest infestation response in the state. The JIC coordinates closely with federal officials to ensure consistency in the information released to the communications media and the public.

ACTIONS

Initial Actions

The SEOC and/or responsible agencies will take the following actions when ESF 11 is activated for one or more of the functions listed below:

Functional Category	Actions
Nutrition Assistance	Determine the critical needs of the affected population in terms of numbers of people, their location and usable food preparation facilities for congregate feeding.
(DSHS/ESF 6)	Catalog available food, transportation, equipment, storage and distribution facility resources and locate these resources geographically.
Appendix 1 (TBP)	In conjunction with WSDA and USDA, verify all identified USDA food is fit for human consumption.
	Coordinate staging areas for food supplies and points of distribution for food with the Incident Command Post and the local and tribal EOCs.
	Coordinate shipment of USDA food to staging areas within the affected area.
	Initiate direct market procurement of critical food supplies unavailable in existing inventories.
	Request Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program authorization under a presidential declaration.
Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response	WSDA will address the potential for outbreaks in Washington State and provide guidance to unaffected local jurisdictions and practitioners on taking immediate precautionary measures within their borders.
(WSDA/USDA/ DOH/WDFW) Appendix 2 - State Animal Response Plan	If a possible, intentional pathogen release is reported, the ESF 11 Lead, State Veterinarian (WSDA) and animal health authorities will immediately notify the USDA Office of Inspector General (OIG), which in turn contacts the DHS Homeland Security Operations Center. As the situation warrants, USDA OIG notifies and coordinates with the appropriate local, tribal, state and federal law enforcement agencies.
(WSDA/USDA) Appendix 3 – State Health Response Plan	If criminal activity is suspected in connection with an outbreak, WSDA will work closely with the law enforcement responders to ensure the proper handling and packing of any samples and the sample's shipment to the appropriate research laboratory for testing and forensic analysis. Coordinate any subsequent criminal investigation with the appropriate local, tribal, state or federal law enforcement agency. If the outbreak is determined to be a criminal but not a terrorist act, the USDA OIG assumes

		primary federal responsibility for a law enforcement response.
	•	If a terrorist act is suspected in connection with an outbreak, coordinate with USDA OIG to notify the Weapons of Mass Destruction Unit of the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The USDA OIG, other appropriate federal law enforcement agencies and the FBI conduct a joint criminal investigation.
	•	Through the State Veterinarian (WSDA), coordinate with USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) for the inspection, fumigation, disinfection, sanitation, pest extermination and destruction of animals or articles found to be so infected or contaminated as to be sources of dangerous infection to human beings and take such other measures, as necessary.
Food Supply Safety and Security	•	In conjunction with USDA and FDA, assess the operating status of inspected meat, poultry and egg product processing, distribution, import and retail facilities in the affected area.
(WSDA/DOH)	•	In conjunction with USDA and FDA, evaluate the adequacy of available inspectors, program investigators and laboratory services relative to the emergency on a geographical basis.
Appendix 4 (TBP)	•	Embargo unsafe or contaminated food or food products, as applicable.
NCH Resources Protection	•	Determine the critical needs and resources available for NCH resources protection in consultation with state, local, tribal and private entities. DNR, ECY, WDFW, DHAP and DES will consult on the basis of this determination to decide which agency will be the primary agency for the incident.
(DNR/ECY/WDFW/ DHAP)	•	Coordinate necessary assistance within the affected area.
Appendix 5 - Protection of Natural and Cultural Resources and Historic Resources		

Ongoing Actions

Functional Category	Actions
Nutrition Assistance	Expedite requests, if any, for emergency issuance of the supplemental nutrition assistance program after access to commercial food channels is restored.
(DSHS/ESF 6)	Establish logistical links with organizations involved in long-term congregate meal service.
	Establish need for and effect replacement of food products transferred from existing FNS nutrition assistance program inventories.
Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response	 Provide information and recommendations to the SEOC and federal agencies for incidents involving an outbreak of highly contagious/zoonotic animal disease, highly infective exotic plant disease or economically devastating plant pest infestation that may require quarantine actions or that may impact intrastate/ interstate commerce.
(WSDA/DOH/ WDFW)	Assign veterinary personnel to assist in delivering animal health care to injured or abandoned animals and to perform veterinary preventive medicine activities, including the field investigations and technical assistance and consultation, as required.
Food Supply Safety and	Inspect slaughter and processing plants, distribution and retail sites and import facilities at ports of entry.
Security	Engage in laboratory analysis activities to screen meat, poultry and egg products for chemical, biological and radiological agents.
(WSDA/DOH)	 Suspend operations of meat, poultry and egg processing plants, as appropriate.
	Embargo unsafe or contaminated food and food products, as applicable.
	Engage in surveillance of food safety/security related illness, injury and other consumer complaints.
	Coordinate with state, local, tribal and voluntary organizations to determine the extent to which FDA/USDA-FSIS resources are needed and can be provided.
	Conduct product tracing to determine the source, destination and disposition of adulterated and/or contaminated products.
	 Control all identified products at inspected establishments that are suspected or found to be adulterated through product recall, seizure and detention and/or closures of regulated establishments.

NCH Resources Protection	Provide scientific/technical advice, information and assistance help prevent/minimize injury, preserve, protect, conserve, stabilize, rehabilitate or restore NCH resources.	to
(DNR/ECY/WDFW/ DHAP)	Establish logistical links with organizations involved in long-ter NCH resources protection, preservation, conservation, rehabilitation, recovery, stabilization and restoration.	m

RESPONSIBILITIES

Primary Agencies

Functional Category / Agency(s)	Responsibilities
Nutrition Assistance / DSHS	 Coordinate with state, local and tribal officials to determine the nutrition needs of the population in the affected areas based on the following categories: acutely deficient, moderately deficient, self-sufficient and surplus supplies.
	Request emergency issuance of the supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to qualifying households within the affected area.
	Request emergency issuance of food supplies available to households to take home for consumption in lieu of providing supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits for qualifying households.
	Work with state and voluntary agencies to develop a plan of operation that ensures timely distribution of food to the proper location, once need has been determined.
Animal Disease	Animal Diseases - Veterinary Services
and Pest Response / WSDA, DOH and	Detect animal disease anomalies and assign Foreign Animal Disease Diagnosticians to conduct investigations.
WDFW	After diagnosis of disease, circulate warning notice to appropriate federal and state officials in order to facilitate a more timely and efficient response.
	Coordinate response tasks with other ESFs, Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams and voluntary animal care organizations.
	Coordinate surveillance activities with ESF 8 – Public Health and Medical Services in zoonotic diseases incidents.
	Coordinate with ESF 8 on animal/veterinary/wildlife/disposal issues arising from natural disaster.

Plant Disease and Pest Response / WSDA

Plant Disease or Pests - Plant Protection and Quarantine

- The grower, state land-grant university diagnostic laboratory and/or WSDA diagnostic laboratory will contact the Assistant Director for Plant Services Division, WSDA, when they identify an exotic plant disease or plant pest event of quarantine importance. The Assistant Director then notifies the USDA Plant Protection and Quarantine Program's regional and headquarters offices of the infestation or outbreak.
- Prior to initiating an emergency response, the suspect specimen must be confirmed by a specialist recognized as an authority by the USDA Plant Protection and Quarantine Program's National Identification Services Unit.
- Once confirmed, the appropriate USDA Plant Protection and Quarantine Region Director and the Assistant Deputy Administrator for Pest Detection and Management Programs notify the Assistant Director for Plant Services Division, WSDA, the presence of the exotic plant disease or plant pest has been confirmed. WSDA will then establish a Unified Command with USDA to respond to the outbreak or infestation.

Food Supply Safety and Security / WSDA and DOH

- Assess whether meat, poultry and egg product processors, distributors and importers in the affected area are able to provide safe and secure food.
- Suspend operations in facilities that cannot produce unadulterated products. Continue to conduct regular or enhanced inspection and verification, including laboratory monitoring of food samples from other facilities.
- Work with federal, state, tribal and local authorities as well as industry to conduct tracing, recall and control of adulterated products. This includes proper disposal of contaminated products in order to protect public health and the environment in the affected area.
- Provide Geographic Information Systems mapping capability of regulated meat, poultry and egg product facilities to assist state, tribal and local authorities in establishing food control zones to protect public health.
- Provide seafood inspection capabilities to assess safety, wholesomeness, proper labeling and quality of fish and fishery products through process and product verifications, product evaluations and certifications and laboratory analysis.

NCH Resources Protection / DNR, ECY, WDFW and DHAP

- Provide scientific/technical advice, information and assistance to help prevent or minimize injury to and restore or stabilize NCH resources. Areas covered include terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems; biological resources, including fish and wildlife; threatened and endangered species, and migratory birds; historic and prehistoric resources; mapping and geospatial data; geology; hydrology, including real-time water flow data; data on earthquakes and other natural hazards; on- and offshore minerals; energy; and coal mining.
- Make available the response resources of DNR, such as incident management teams, communications equipment, transportation resources, temporary housing and feeding resources, etc., in cooperation with the SEOC, to the extent possible.
- Provide technical assistance in contract management, contracting, procurement, construction inspection and NCH resource assessment and restoration (natural resources), preservation, protection and stabilization.
- Provide technical and financial assistance to landowners and communities, as appropriate, to help assess the restoration needs for important fish and wildlife habitat and population restoration.
- Provide technical advice, information and assistance to help prevent or minimize injury to and restore or stabilize NCH resources. Areas covered include: plant materials propagation; soil surveys; drought preparedness and mitigation; critical habitat, including environmentally sensitive and culturally significant areas; watershed survey, planning, protection and rehabilitation; and reforestation and other erosion control.
- Provide technical and financial assistance to local and tribal governments in developing natural resource management and protection plans, primarily for forested areas.
- Provide emergency assistance to local and tribal governments for recovery efforts on forested lands as assessment needs are determined and resources become available.
- Make available an environmental data archive for determining baseline conditions.
- Provide contaminant analysis expertise and facilities.
- Provide expertise and consultation on marine mammals and essential fish habitat issues.

Support Agencies

Agency	Responsibilities
Department of	Assist in the protection of natural resources.
Agriculture	Assist WDFW in the event of an outbreak of an animal disease in wildlife.
Department of Commerce (DOC)	Assist in determining economic damage estimates in the communities involved in the disaster, along with any collateral economic damage caused by animal and crop disease outbreaks.
Department of Ecology (ECY)	Assist in determining proper waste disposal methods for animal carcasses, bedding, animal byproducts, contaminated food and feed and any crops that need controlled disposal to prevent the spread of disease or pest infestation.
Department of Enterprise Services (DES)	Assists by providing facilities for reception, storage and staging of the National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS), as provided in an interagency agreement.
Department of Health (DOH)	Assist in determining proper waste disposal methods for animal carcasses, bedding, animal byproducts, contaminated food and feed and any crops that need controlled disposal to prevent the spread of disease or pest infestation.
	 Assists in the areas of food safety and food-borne disease surveillance as provided for in state law and in agency plans, policies, procedures and/or practices.
Department of Labor and Industries (L&I)	 Lead agency for worker health and safety issues as provided for in state law and agency plans, policies, procedures and/or practices.
Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)	Apply for a Crisis Counseling Grant, under a presidential declaration, to support the provision of crisis counseling through local behavioral health resources during animal depopulation operations.
Department of Transportation (WSDOT)	Assist by providing heavy equipment for animal depopulation operations, when required and available, in the event of an animal disease outbreak.
	Assist in determining routes for movement of possibly contaminated carcasses to landfill or proper disposal sites during an animal disease outbreak.

Office of the Attorney General (AG)	Provide legal determination and support to WSDA during animal and plant disease outbreaks.
	 Provide legal determination and support to WSDA and DOH during the response to food borne illness outbreaks and contaminated food incidents.
Washington Military Department (WMD)	Provide support, as requested, during animal disease outbreaks. This may include, but is not limited to: heavy equipment, personnel for disinfection stations, traffic control and transportation assets.
U.S. Department of Agriculture	Respond jointly with WSDA and WDFW in the event of an animal disease outbreak in the state of Washington.
(USDA)	Respond jointly with WSDA in the event of a plant disease outbreak or pest infestation in the state of Washington.
	Respond jointly with WSDA, DOH and FDA to a food borne illness or food contamination incident in the state of Washington.
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	Respond jointly with WSDA, DOH and USDA to a food borne illness or food contamination incident in the state of Washington.
American Red Cross (ARC),	Assist in determining requirements for necessary food supplies to support displaced citizens in shelters.
The Salvation Army and other	Support ESF 6 Feeding Task Force.
Voluntary	Provide crisis counseling to individuals impacted by the disaster.
Agencies Active in Disasters	

APPENDICES

- 1. Provision of Nutrition Assistance (TBP)
- 2. State Animal Response Plan
- 3. State Plant Health Response Plan
- 4. Assurance of Food Supply (TBP)
- 5. Protection of Natural and Cultural Resources and Historic Resources